

treats upon the species allied to *H. alpinum*, *H. nigrescens* and *H. pallidum*. He has shown, we think satisfactorily, that the *H. alpinum* of all our Floras includes several well-marked species. Similarly he states, that several new species occur in each of the other groups represented by the above-named plants; and also, that some of the names hitherto used in our books (and even in the above-mentioned great work of Fries) are erroneous.

From his position at York, and various engagements, the author has not been enabled to elucidate the synonymy as much as we could have desired; neither has he studied some of the Herbaria that we should have recommended to his notice. He has however been supplied with large accurately named collections by Professors Fries, Blytt and Grenier, and has thus had sufficient materials for the determination of the plants described in the 'Symbolæ' and the 'Flore de France,' where the French species are described with great skill. He also appears to have had the free use of the large collections of Professors Arnott and Balfour and that of our colleague Mr. Babington.

We think that he has made a good use of these opportunities and therefore cordially recommend his book to our readers.

*A Rearrangement of the Nomenclature and Synonymy of those species of British Coleoptera which are comprised under the sections Geodephaga, Hydradephaga, and part of Philhydrida, being the first portion of a general British Catalogue.* By J. F. DAWSON, LL.B., and HAMLET CLARK, M.A. London, 8vo. 1856. Post free for 12 stamps, on application to the Rev. H. Clark, All Saints, Northampton.

In the shape of a small pamphlet of ten printed pages, and under the above promising though somewhat indefinite title, we have received the first instalment of what will certainly be a welcome boon to the collector of British Coleoptera. For years the want of some list of these insects, which, with the Lepidoptera, engross nearly the whole attention of our native entomologists, has been severely felt; the imperfections of the 'Manual of British Beetles,' by the late James Francis Stephens, and of the lists of British insects published by that author and by Mr. Curtis, becoming every year more manifest. Under these circumstances the value of the present undertaking, by authors so well known as careful Coleopterists, must be evident to every entomologist, and we trust that the sale of the present part, of which more than half consists of the nomenclature of the *Geodephaga* so recently and admirably worked out by Mr. Dawson, may be such as to induce them to continue their enterprise. A certain number of these lists are printed on one side, so as to serve as labels for the cabinet, and the synonyms given appear to be confined to such names as have been quoted by British authors.